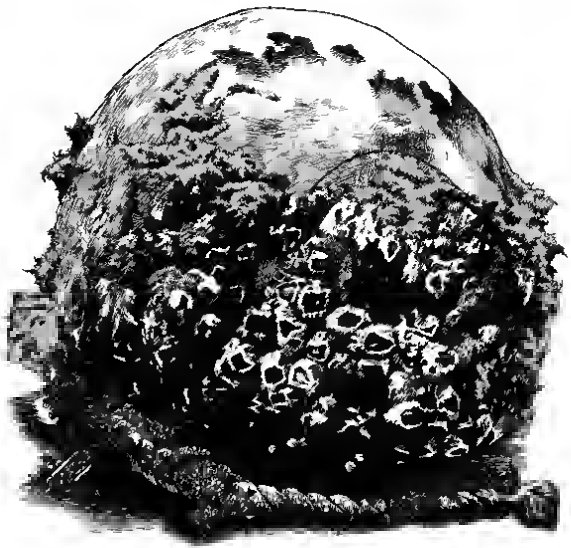
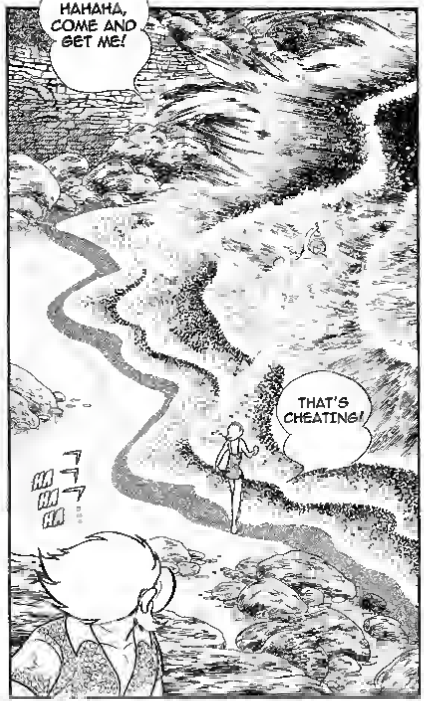
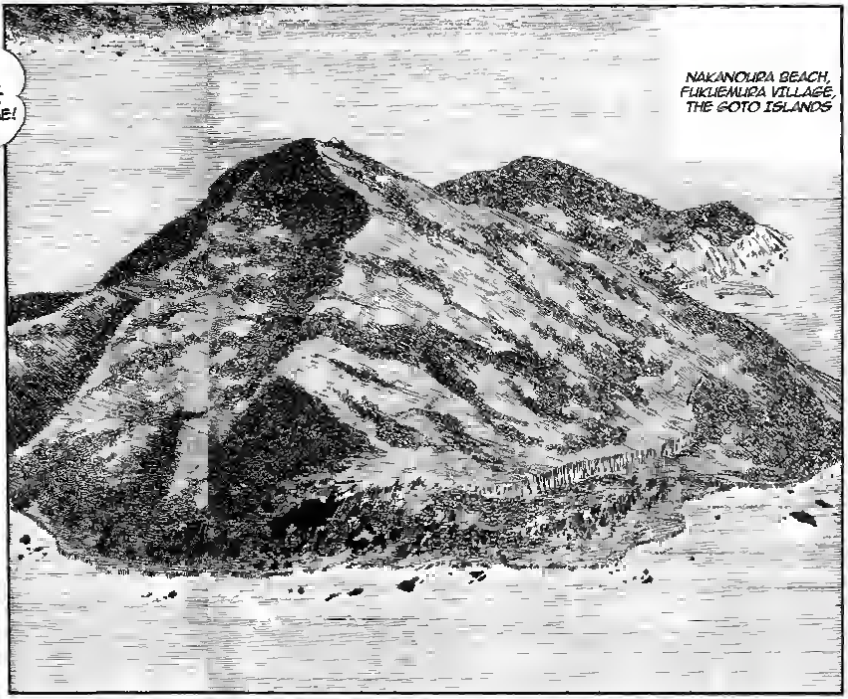
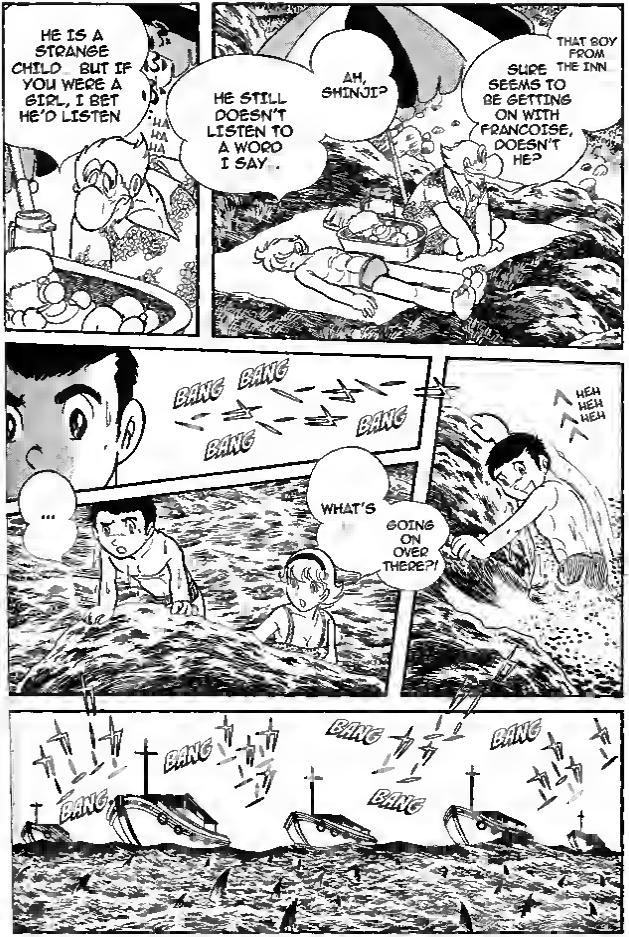
THE DOLPHIN AND THE BOY



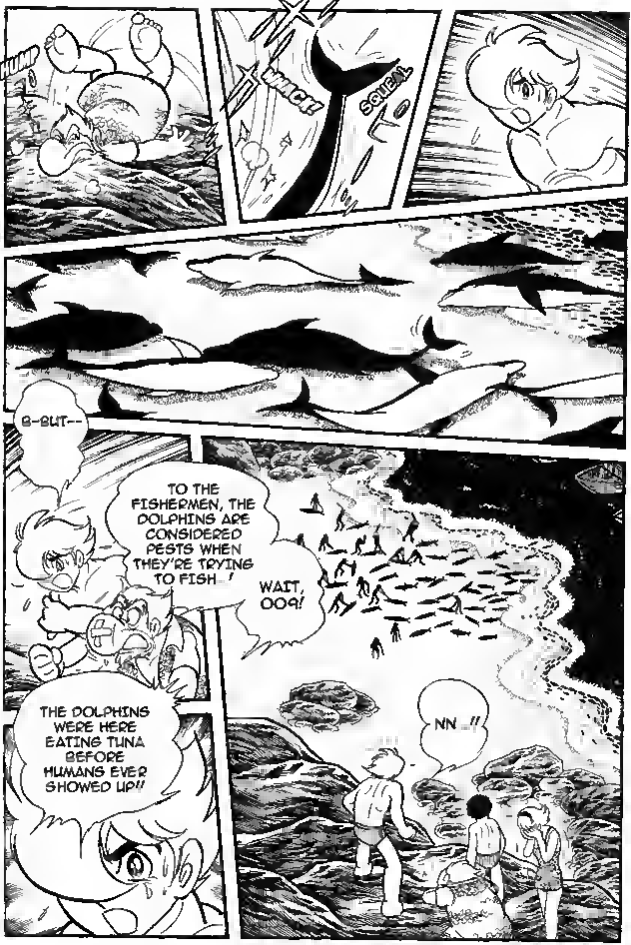
HEY, WAIT FOR ME!

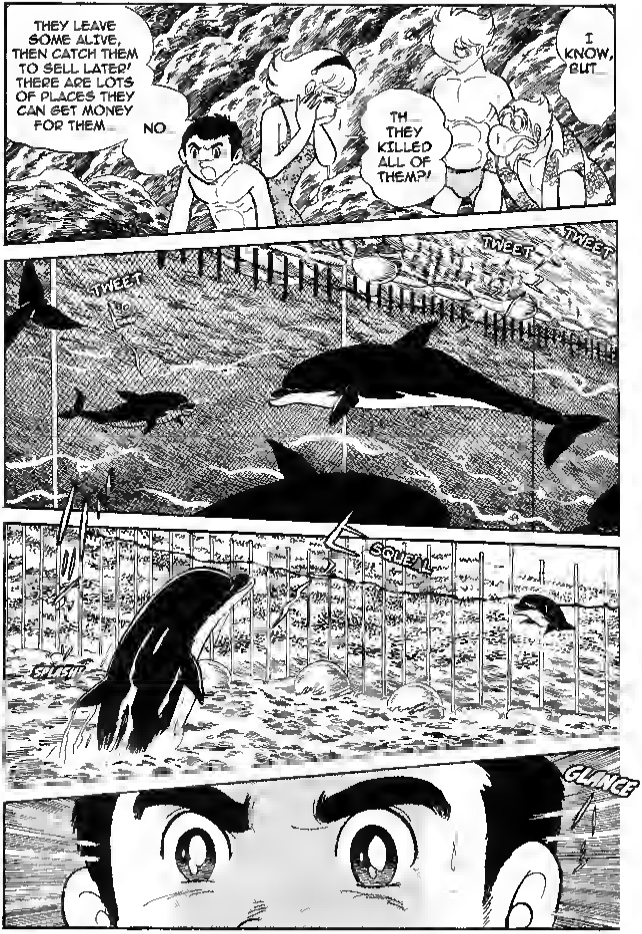

HAHAHA, COME AND GET ME!
THAT'S CHEATING!
HA HA HA

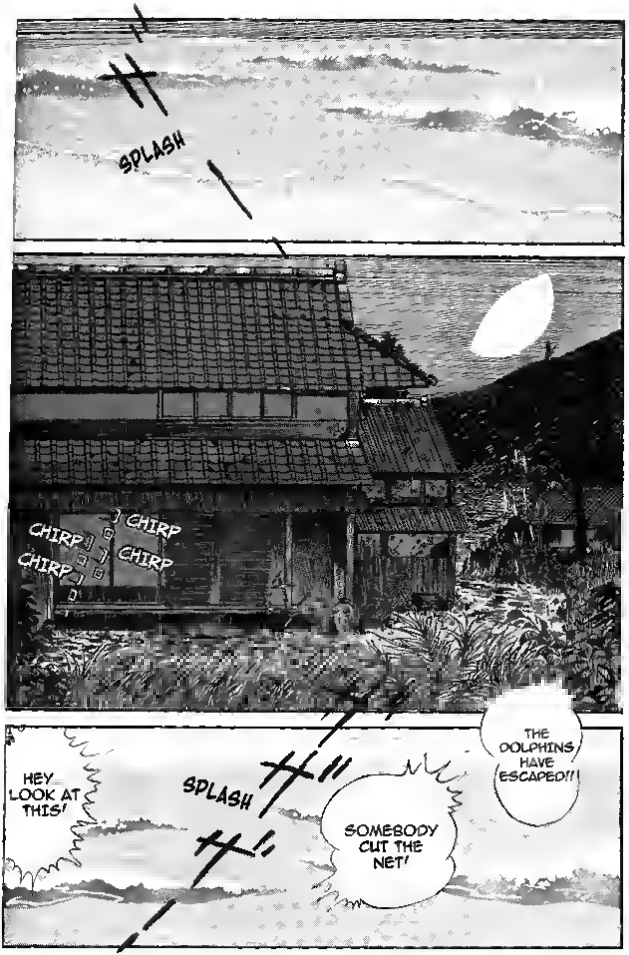

NAKANOURA BEACH, FUKUEMURA VILLAGE, THE GOTO ISLANDS


HE IS A STRANGE CHILD. BUT IF YOU WERE A GIRL, I BET HE'D LISTEN
HA HA HA
HE STILL DOESN'T LISTEN TO A WORD I SAY..
AH, SHINJI?
THAT BOY FROM THE INN SURE SEEMS TO BE GETTING ON WITH FRANCOISE, DOESN'T HE?
BANG BANG BANG BANG
...
WHAT'S GOING ON OVER THERE?!
HEH HEH HEH
BANG BANG BANG BANG BANG

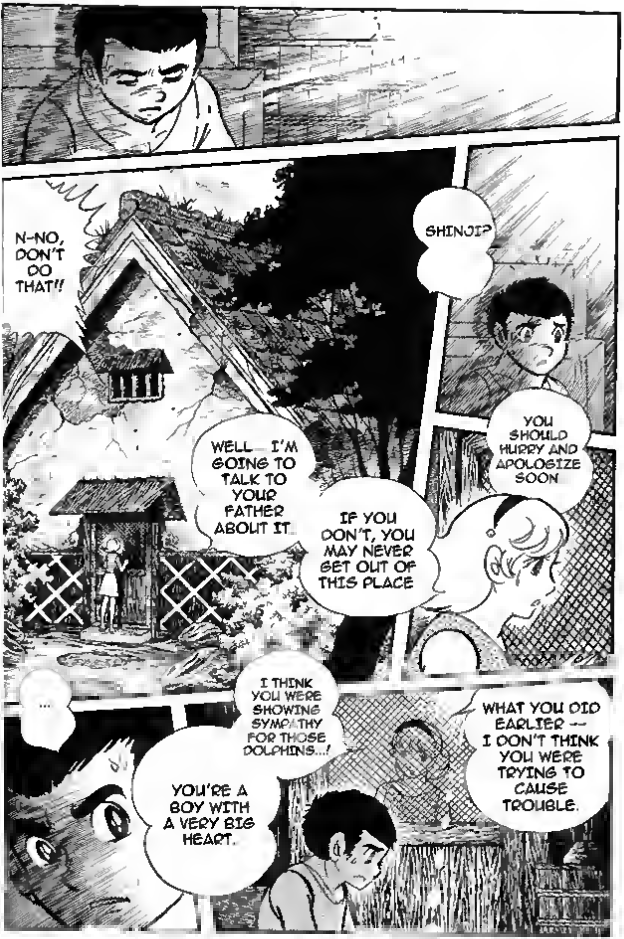
SPLASH
SPLASH
SPLASH
BANG!
BANG!
BANG!
BANG!
BANG!
WHACK
SQUEAL
SQUEAL
WHACK
SQUEAL
HOW CRUEL!


THUMP
WHACK
SQUEAL
B-BUT--
TO THE FISHERMEN, THE DOLPHINS ARE CONSIDERED PESTS WHEN THEY'RE TRYING TO FISH...
WAIT, 009!
THE DOLPHINS WERE HERE EATING TUNA BEFORE HUMANS EVER SHOWED UP!!
NN...!!

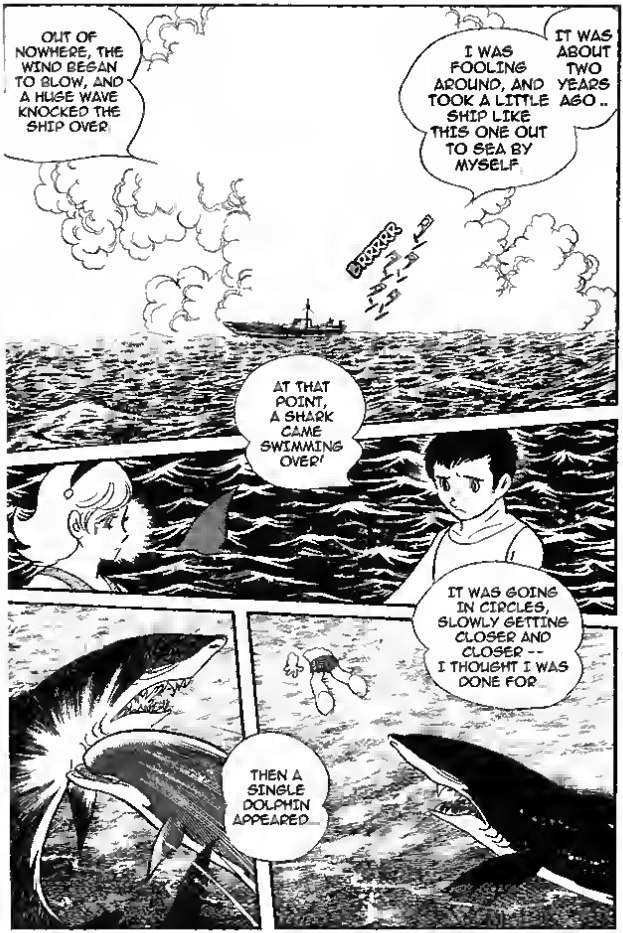

THEY LEAVE SOME ALIVE, THEN CATCH THEM TO SELL LATER! THERE ARE LOTS OF PLACES THEY CAN GET MONEY FOR THEM...
NO...
TH-THEY KILLED ALL OF THEM?!
I KNOW, BUT...
TWEET
TWEET
TWEET
SQUEAL
GLANCE


SPLASH
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
HEY LOOK AT THIS!
SPLASH
SOMEBODY CUT THE NET!
THE DOLPHINS HAVE ESCAPED!!!

NOTE: TALISMAN OF PROTECTION
CHATTER CHATTER
THERE'S NO MISTAKING IT. SHINJI'S THE ONE WHO THE CUT THE NET AND LET OUR DOLPHINS GO!!
IT'S SHINJI'S PROTECTION TALISMAN!
THIS WAS CAUGHT IN THE NET!
IS THIS TRUE, SHINJI?
THWOCK!
H-HOW COULD YOU DO THIS?!
THWOCK!
THWOCK!
THIS ISN'T THE FIRST TIME, EITHER! ONCE, I CAUGHT HIM STUFFING A TOOTHBRUSH IN MY GOAT'S MOUTH!
SHINJI!
AND THE ONE WHO THREW A CRUCIFIED TOAD INTO MY HOUSE WAS...


N-NO, DON'T DO THAT!!
SHINJI?
YOU SHOULD HURRY AND APOLOGIZE SOON
WELL... I'M GOING TO TALK TO YOUR FATHER ABOUT IT.
IF YOU DON'T, YOU MAY NEVER GET OUT OF THIS PLACE
...
I THINK YOU WERE SHOWING SYMPATHY FOR THOSE DOLPHINS...!
YOU'RE A BOY WITH A VERY BIG HEART.
WHAT YOU DID EARLIER -- I DON'T THINK YOU WERE TRYING TO CAUSE TROUBLE.

RING!
HM?!
FRAN!
FRAN, WOULD... WOULD YOU BELIEVE ME?!
BUT, WHO ON EARTH DID IT?
THEY MUST HAVE USED THAT LADDER.
SHINJI'S ESCAPED!
HE GOT OUT THROUGH A HOLE BUSTED INTO THE ROOF!
BRRRRR!
LING
LING
HUH ?!
FRANÇOISE IS GONE, TOO!

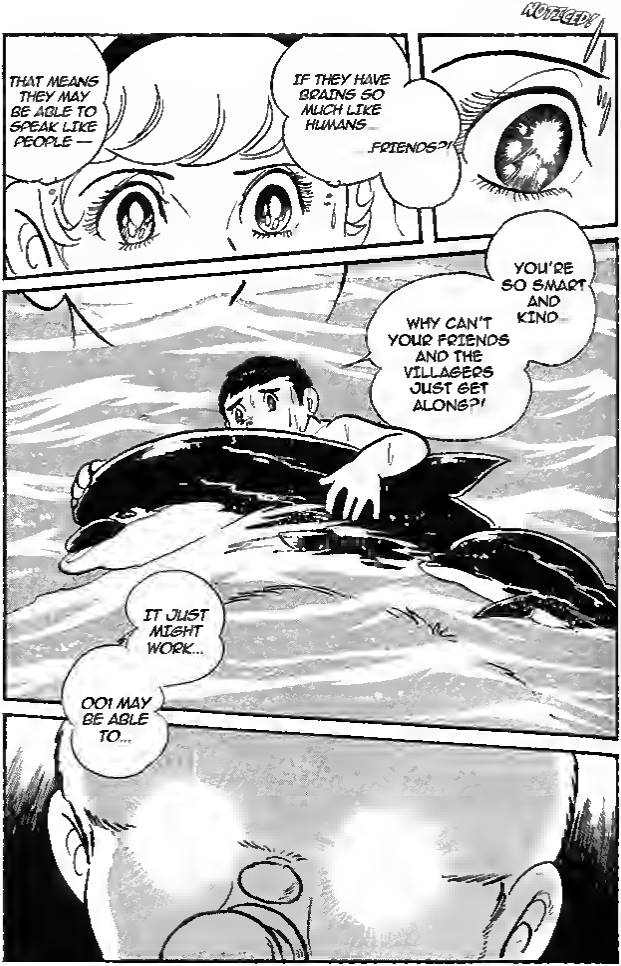

OUT OF NOWHERE, THE WIND BEGAN TO BLOW, AND A HUGE WAVE KNOCKED THE SHIP OVER
I WAS FOOLING AROUND, AND TOOK A LITTLE SHIP LIKE THIS ONE OUT TO SEA BY MYSELF
IT WAS ABOUT TWO YEARS AGO..
BRRRRR
AT THAT POINT, A SHARK CAME SWIMMING OVER!
IT WAS GOING IN CIRCLES, SLOWLY GETTING CLOSER AND CLOSER -- I THOUGHT I WAS DONE FOR
THEN A SINGLE DOLPHIN APPEARED...

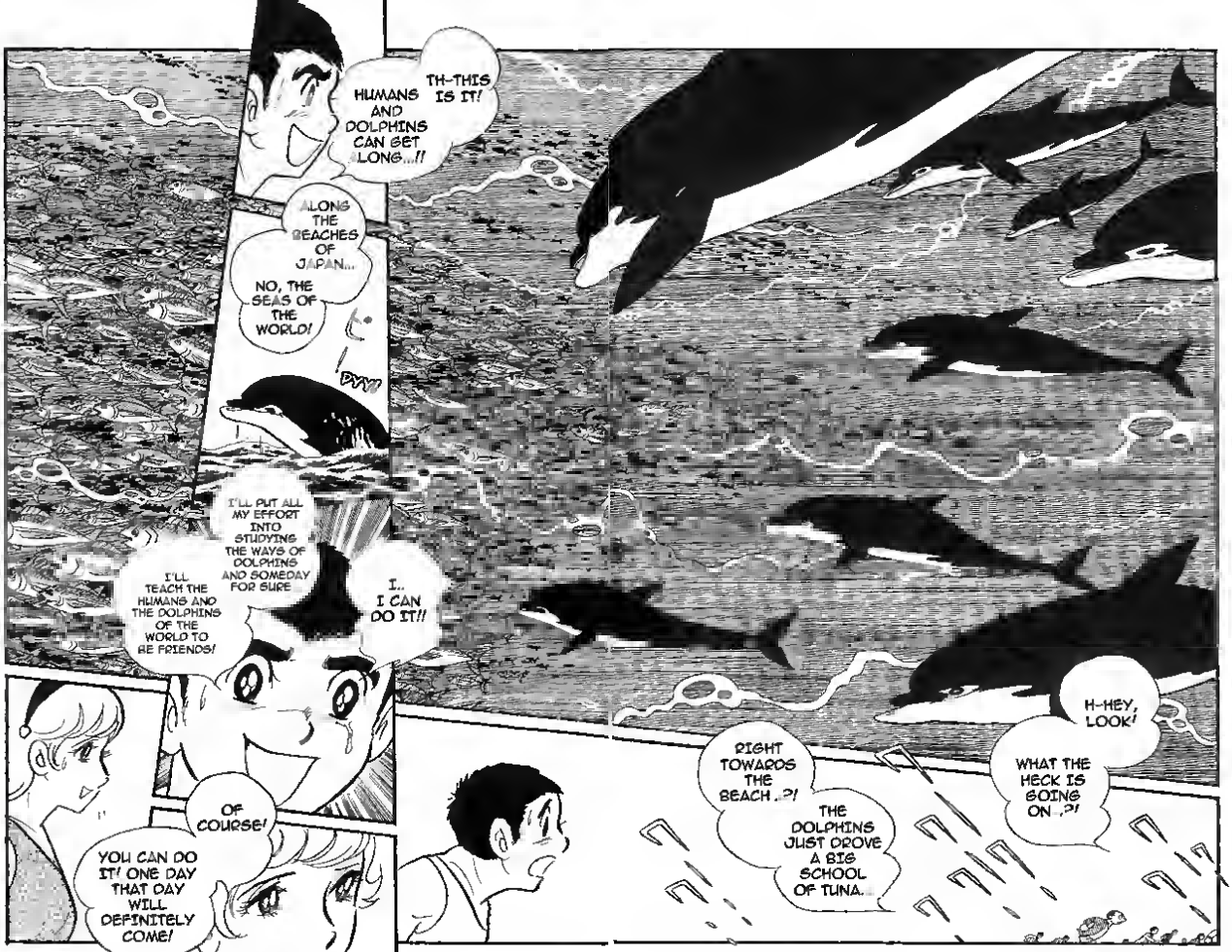
AND SAVE ME A RIDE ALL THE WAY BACK TO SHORE!
AND ON TOP OF THAT, IT PUT ME ON ITS BACK...
IT SAVED MY LIFE...
NO ONE I TOLD THE STORY TO BELIEVED ME, THEY JUST CALLED ME A LIAR AND A BLOWHARD...
THEN YESTERDAY, THAT DOLPHIN —
WAS AMONG THOSE THEY TRAPPED?!
BUT THAT DOLPHIN AND I BECAME GOOD FRIENDS!
THAT'S RIGHT. THE LONGLINE WENT DOWN JUST SLOWLY ENOUGH TO SEPARATE A BABY DOLPHIN — FROM ITS MOTHER
THE DOLPHIN WHO SAVED ME HAD BECOME A MOTHER!
SO I — I CUT THE NET!

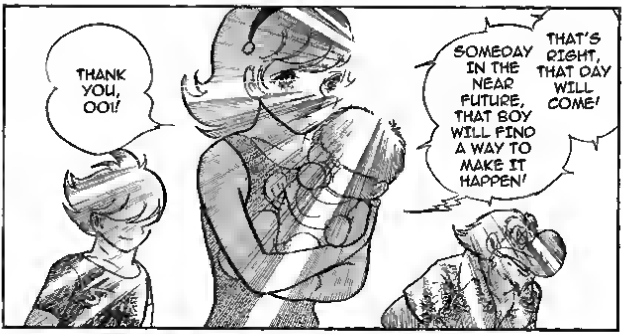
SHARPY?
NO MISTAKE, THAT DOLPHIN WAS DEFINITELY SHARPY!
THAT NIGHT, I SNUCK OUT ONTO THE BEACH AND DOVE INTO THE WATER. I CUT THE NET AND SET THEM FREE.
BACK THEN, TO CALL SHARPY ...
THAT'S HOW SHE GOT HER NAME.
SHE'S GOT A POINTED BILL.
I DID THIS.
SHH
BUT NOT TODAY.
SHE'D HEAR THE SOUND AND COME FLYING OUT OF THE WATER.
SHH
SHH
...
SHE'S PROBABLY LONG GONE BY NOW...
ALTHOUGH, IT'S FOR THE BEST...

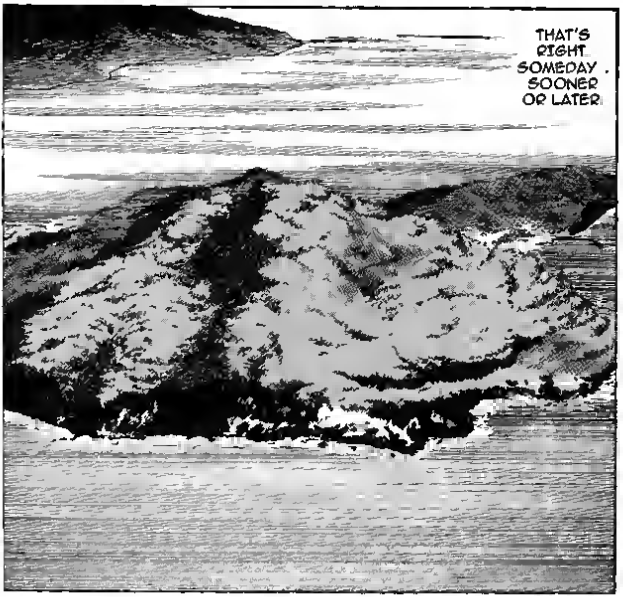
SO WHY DO THEY ONLY HURT SHARPY AND HER FRIENDS?!
SHARKS AND ORCAS AND OTHER ANIMALS EAT THEM TOO...!
DAMN THAT LONGLINE. DOLPHINS AREN'T THE ONLY ONES THAT EAT THE TUNA IT CATCHES!
LET'S GO BACK, FRAN
THOSE WRINKLES ARE WHAT GIVE THEM INTELLIGENCE THAT COMES CLOSE TO OURS ---
A DOLPHIN'S BRAIN HAS WRINKLES LIKE A HUMAN'S
SO, THEY'RE VERY SMART.
I KNEW IT SHE'S NOT COMING TODAY EITHER
WAIT!
IT'S JUST A HUNCH!
AH... HEH-
HUH ?!
THEY'RE GETTING CLOSER !!
WAIT ! I CAN HEAR SOMETHING! THE VOICES OF TWO DOLPHINS, A MOTHER AND CHILD

SPLOOOSH!!
SHE'S HERE!
Y-YOU'RE RIGHT!
SHARPY!!
TWEEEET!
WOW
SPLASH
TO SEE SUCH A THING...
I THINK HUMANS AND DOLPHINS HAVE BEEN FRIENDS SINCE PRE-HISTORY
KEE KEE KEE!
AMAZING!!
IT'S AS THOUGH—
IT'S AS THOUGH SHE CAME BACK TO SEE HER HUMAN FRIEND AGAIN...


NOTICED!
THAT MEANS THEY MAY BE ABLE TO SPEAK LIKE PEOPLE —
IF THEY HAVE BRAINS SO MUCH LIKE HUMANS...
...FRIENDS?!
YOU'RE SO SMART AND KIND...
WHY CAN'T YOUR FRIENDS AND THE VILLAGERS JUST GET ALONG?!
IT JUST MIGHT WORK...
OOI MAY BE ABLE TO...


H-HEY, LOOK!
WHAT THE HECK IS GOING ON..?!
RIGHT TOWARDS THE BEACH..?!
THE DOLPHINS JUST DROVE A BIG SCHOOL OF TUNA.
I.. I CAN DO IT!!
I'LL TEACH THE HUMANS AND THE DOLPHINS OF THE WORLD TO BE FRIENDS!
I'LL PUT ALL MY EFFORT INTO STUDYING THE WAYS OF DOLPHINS AND SOMEDAY FOR SURE
DYN?
NO, THE SEAS OF THE WORLD!
ALONG THE BEACHES OF JAPAN...
TH-THIS IS IT! HUMANS AND DOLPHINS CAN GET ALONG...!!
OF COURSE!
YOU CAN DO IT! ONE DAY THAT DAY WILL DEFINITELY COME!


THANK YOU, OOI!
SOMEDAY IN THE NEAR FUTURE, THAT BOY WILL FIND A WAY TO MAKE IT HAPPEN!
THAT'S RIGHT, THAT DAY WILL COME!


THAT'S RIGHT. SOMEDAY . SOONER OR LATER.